

A LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for evaluating packets and frames in a wireless communication system having a burst oriented channel, and a corresponding rate indicator channel, the method comprising:
 - monitoring the rate indicator channel; ~~and~~
 - determining the presence of a packet on the rate indicator channel based on a likelihood generated by a maximum likelihood decoder that decodes the rate indicator channel; and
 - determining the validity of a frame by analyzing the packet, if the packet in the frame is a zero-rate packet, and analyzing a subpacket ID and a payload if the packet is not a zero-rate packet.
- 2-6 (Canceled)
7. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1[[6]] wherein analyzing the packet further comprises
decoding information on the burst oriented data transmission channel using the packet if the sub-packet ID and payload are not expected.
8. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1[[5]] wherein analyzing the packet comprises
comparing a sub-packet ID and a payload size of the packet to sub-packet IDs and payload sizes of previous packets.
9. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1[[5]] wherein analyzing the packet further comprises

comparing the packet with an expected packet type if the packet is a zero-rate packet.

10. (Original) The method of claim 9 wherein analyzing the packet further comprises detecting energy on the burst oriented data channel if the packet matches the expected packet type.

11. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1[[4]] wherein determining the validity of a frame further comprises detecting energy on the burst oriented channel if there is no packet on the corresponding rate indicator channel and no packet was expected.

12. (Currently Amended) A system for evaluating packets and frames in a wireless communication system, comprising:

a base station; and

a mobile station coupled to the base station via a wireless communication link;

wherein the base station is configured to receive data from the mobile station on a plurality of reverse-link channels on the wireless communication link including a burst oriented channel, and a corresponding rate indicator channel; and

wherein the base station is configured to monitor the rate indicator channel and determine the presence of a packet on the rate indicator channel based on a likelihood generated by a maximum likelihood decoder that decodes the rate indicator channel and determine the validity of a frame by analyzing the packet, if the packet in the frame is a zero-rate packet, and analyzing a subpacket ID and a payload if the packet is not a zero-rate packet.

13 – 17 (Canceled)

18. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 12 ~~17~~ wherein the base station is further configured to analyze the packet by decoding information on the burst oriented data transmission channel using the packet if the sub-packet ID and payload are expected.

19. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 12 ~~16~~ wherein the base station is configured to analyze the packet by comparing a sub-packet ID and a payload size of the packet to sub-

packet IDs and payload sizes of previous packets.

20. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 12 ~~16~~ wherein the base station is configured to analyze the packet by comparing the packet with an expected packet type if the packet is a zero-rate packet.

21. (Original) The system of claim 20 wherein the base station is configured to analyze the packet by detecting energy on the burst oriented channel if the packet matches the expected packet type.

22. (Original) The system of claim 12 ~~15~~ wherein the base station is further configured to determine the validity of a frame by detecting energy on the burst oriented channel if there is no packet on the corresponding rate indicator channel and no packet was expected.

23. (Currently Amended) A base station operable to communicate with a mobile station via a wireless communication channel, wherein the base station comprises:

a processing subsystem; and

a transceiver subsystem coupled to the processing subsystem;

wherein the transceiver subsystem is configured to receive signals on a plurality of reverse-link channels on the wireless communication link including a burst oriented channel, and a corresponding rate indicator channel; and

wherein the base station is configured to monitor the rate indicator channel and determine the presence of a packet on the rate indicator channel based on a likelihood generated by a maximum likelihood decoder that decodes the rate indicator channel and determine the validity of a frame by analyzing the packet, if the packet in the frame is a zero-rate packet, and analyzing a subpacket ID and a payload if the packet is not a zero-rate packet.

24 – 28 (Canceled)

29. (Currently Amended) The base station of claim 23 ~~28~~ wherein the base station is further configured to analyze the packet by decoding information on the burst oriented data transmission

channel using the packet if the sub-packet ID and payload are expected.

30. (Currently Amended) The base station of claim ~~23~~ 27 wherein the base station is configured to analyze the packet by comparing a sub-packet ID and a payload size of the packet to sub-packet IDs and payload sizes of previous packets.

31. (Currently Amended) The base station of claim ~~23~~ 27 wherein the base station is configured to analyze the packet by comparing the packet with an expected packet type if the packet is a zero-rate packet.

32. (Original) The base station of claim 31 wherein the base station is configured to analyze the packet by detecting energy on the burst oriented channel if the packet matches the expected packet type.

33. (Currently Amended) The base station of claim ~~23~~ 26 wherein the base station is further configured to determine the validity of a frame by detecting energy on the burst oriented channel if there is no packet on the corresponding rate indicator channel and no packet was expected.

34. (Currently Amended) An apparatus operable to communicate with a mobile station via a wireless communication channel, wherein the base station comprises:

means for monitoring the rate indicator channel; and

means for determining the presence of a packet on the rate indicator channel based on a likelihood generated by a maximum likelihood decoder that decodes the rate indicator channel;

and

means for determining the validity of a frame by analyzing the packet, if the packet in the frame is a zero-rate packet, and analyzing a subpacket ID and a payload if the packet is not a zero-rate packet.

35 – 38 (Canceled)

39. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium including program code stored thereon, which when executed by a processor is for evaluating packets and frames in a wireless communication system having a burst oriented channel, and a corresponding rate indicator channel, comprising:

logic configured to monitor the rate indicator channel; and

logic configured to determine the presence of a packet on the rate indicator channel based on a likelihood generated by a maximum likelihood decoder that decodes the rate indicator channel; and

logic configured to determine the validity of a frame by analyzing the packet, if the packet in the frame is a zero-rate packet, and analyzing a subpacket ID and a payload if the packet is not a zero-rate packet.

40 – 44 (Canceled)